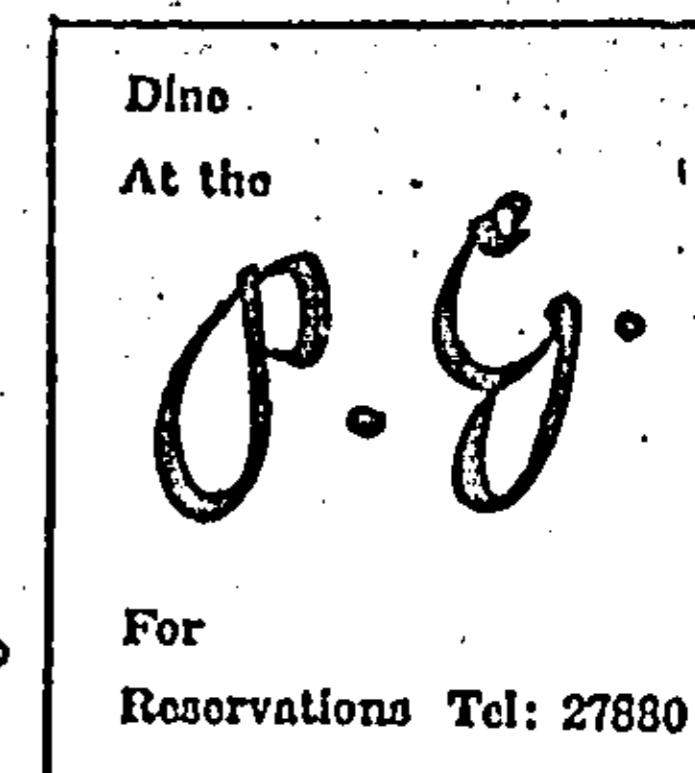




For the Proprietor
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH
For and on behalf of
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.

W. J. G. L. S.
Editor and Publisher

The Hongkong Telegraph



VOL. V NO. 281

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1950.

Price 20 Cents

ARMY TALK OF SECOND DUNKIRK *British Veterans Guarding The Retreat South*

COMMENT

The intention of Peking, how far the Chinese Communists are prepared to go at Moscow's behest, is as obscure as ever. General MacArthur minces no words when he declares that a state of undeclared war exists, unpleasing though that sounds to Mr Attlee and other European statesmen striving desperately to prevent an open war between China and the United Nations.

For old China hands, it is difficult to believe that it is the real China which is engaged in rude aggression in Korea. How could a patient, pacific, shrewd and divided people become overnight united, militant and fanatic? Have the warlords become the meek and pliant partners of Mao Tse-tung? It has that appearance. The bald fact that 600,000 troops have been thrown into the bitter battle for Korea will not dissolve under wishful thinking.

But to what lengths Peking is likely to go is guess-work. China was inscrutable before the new mask hid the familiar features and now most of the reliable contacts are gone. Stories out of China, for what they are worth, paint a picture of stern order and discipline in some places and chaos in others.

Taipei recently claimed that there were still 1,000,000 Nationalist troops in various areas of the mainland, apart from guerillas and millions of farmers rising in revolt, but that has to be taken with a pinch of salt. The capacity of any forces still loyal to the Kuomintang organisation to stage any kind of effective rebellion in the present circumstances is highly doubtful. That is being realistic not pessimistic.

On the other hand, Britain's exertions in support of a "No war with China" policy rely on Peking. The Communists can easily start a war if they or the Russians wish it, but the terrible responsibility will be all theirs. And theirs will be the greatest danger, for the one sure result, were open conflict inescapable, would be the dissolution of their control of China. It seems incredible that the most reckless regime, just beginning to find its feet, will open the door to unknown disaster.

Sensational Peace Plan?

London, Dec. 3. As Mr Attlee took off tonight, diplomatic quarters reported that Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, might make a sensational peace proposal to his Parliament possibly on Tuesday — a conference, in neutral territory, of the United States, Britain, France, Russia, Communist China and India, aimed at stopping the drift toward war. —United Press.

HINT OF PEACE TERMS

Lake Success, Dec. 3. The Chinese People's Republic might be prepared to settle the Korean conflict with a cease-fire line establishing the 38th Parallel, among other terms, sources close to the Soviet Union said here today.

These sources, known to be in close touch with the Peking delegation at present in New York, outline these three additional terms:

(1) Restoration of the North Korean regime north of the Parallel and the holding of all-Korea elections within a short time after the cessation of hostilities.

(2) Withdrawal of the United States Seventh Fleet from Formosan waters and the cessation of further American aid to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

(3) Immediate admission of the People's Republic representatives as the rightful delegates of China in the United Nations. These terms, it was understood, were to be communicated by Mr Wu Hsiu-chuan, Peking representative, to Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, chief Indian delegate, who is acting as the principal negotiating link between the Western Powers and Communist China.

Sir Benegal has seen Mr Wu for the second time at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

At his first meeting with Mr Wu the Indian delegate was understood to have sounded the Chinese on the possibility of a cease fire and the establishment of a stabilised military line pending diplomatic negotiations. No specific line was then mentioned but it is assumed that, after consulting with Peking on Saturday, Mr Wu was authorised to propose the 38th Parallel as a possible settlement. —Reuter.

Germany's Role In Defence

Washington, Dec. 3. There are no basic differences between the United States and France over the role of Germany in the West European defence scheme, said Mr Henry Byroade, of the Bureau of German Affairs, today.

He predicted that an agreement satisfying all participating nations will soon be announced. —United Press.

Pyongyang In Turmoil Of Evacuating Troops

With the British 29th Brigade, Dec. 3. British veterans—men who fought their way out of Dunkirk, through North Africa and Italy, Desert Rats and paratroopers—were tonight set for action as the Chinese Communist forces spread across the Chongchon River in force and enemy patrols neared Pyongyang, the former North Korean capital.

Exactly one month after landing in Korea, the 29th Brigade is now guarding the retreat south of the United Nations forces. It has not been the happiest debut for the Brigade.

They took up positions last night as the first winter snow fell. This morning, a thin, white blanket covered the troops in their foxholes. By tonight, after a clear, cloudless day, the snow had gone.

Behind the Brigade, the former Communist capital of Pyongyang today presented a turmoil of evacuating troops, frightened townspeople and line after line of refugees jostling through its streets.

By dark only the plow of headlights and the roar of exhausts from passing convoys disturbed the black, empty net of roads through the city.

The refugees, in their own mysterious fashion, had melted away into the countryside. Odd shots crackled and bursts of machine-gun fire rippled on the city's outskirts, suggesting either guerrilla activity or a nervous, trigger-happy perimeter guard.

The never-ending crawling line of military trucks and equipment churned over the pontoon bridge across the Taedong River tonight.

And so it has been for the last five days and nights—a mechanised army flowing back towards previously-prepared positions.

But there could be no cliche to describe the sight of refugees—the aged, the women, the tiny half-starved children—who crowded the river bank today, seeking their way across to what they hoped would be some sort of sanctuary.

FLIMSY RAFTS

Hundreds travelled across on flimsy wooden rafts, in ramshackle boats and on any material which could be made to float.

Thousands were still north of the river tonight with little hope of reaching the other side except by swimming.

Many crumpled on the edge of the river, lit by the ruddy glow of fires from burning dumps of military stores. Tons of heavy engineering equipment, damaged and broken down transport, clothing and rations were set on fire today due to the lack of transport to ship them out. —Reuter.

ANOTHER DUNKIRK?

Tokyo, Dec. 3. The United Nations forces, retreating under the overwhelming weight of the Chinese Communist armies, face the choice of a "Dunkirk" or a "Tobruk," it was believed by military observers here tonight.

Some officers cautiously mentioned the possibility of a wholesale withdrawal of the American forces from the peninsula. They reasoned that

SHARP CRITICISM OF MACARTHUR

New York, Dec. 3. The New York Post criticised General MacArthur today for "all his fantastic exchanges with American publishers, commentators, editors and reporters in recent days."

"It makes us nervous to imagine that as the Chinese were crossing the Chongchon River, MacArthur was dictating a cable to a publisher," it said in an editorial article. "It becomes an even more serious business when some of the statements seem calculated to cover up for the errors of his own intelligence service and make the United Nations take the rap." —Reuter.

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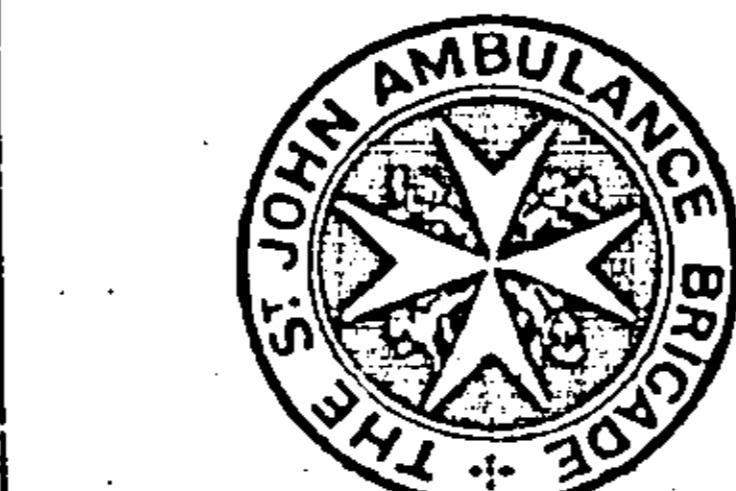


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Gathering Of The Stars



Many of the stars who visited London for the Royal Film Show attended a reception at Londonderry House, Park Lane, the other day. Picture shows Mr and Mrs Richard Todd talking to Claudette Colbert, who is snugly encased in a fur coat.—(Central Press).

AMERICANS STILL TALK PROS AND CONS OF USE OF ATOM BOMB IN KOREA

Washington, Dec. 3.

The question whether atomic bombs should be used against the Chinese Reds in Korea evoked considerable debate in both official and unofficial quarters here today despite the White House statement that there was nothing new in the fact that use of the weapon had been studied.

Touched off by President Truman's comment this week that employment of atomic weapon had been considered, debates were lively both among members of Congress and private citizens.

Two general schools of thought appeared to be emerging. First, those who favour the use of the bomb on the grounds it could speed the end of the war and thus save lives in the long run despite the original toll of casualties caused.

The second group oppose its use for humanitarian or political reasons, or both. This group believe world opinion would criticise use of the bomb. They also question whether the military results would be conclusive enough to warrant risking this criticism.

A Democratic Senator, Edwin Johnson, said in an interview that the United States should drop "a few" of the bombs in Korea and "play war rough."

He is a member of the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee. He claimed the atomic bomb "has great use as a weapon against troops and I think now is the time to use not one but several."

SPECULATION

Observers here speculated whether Senator Johnson's statement was made in the light of certain knowledge that a tactical rather than a strategic version of the bomb has now been perfected. That would mean the bomb is usable at the front over troop concentrations like artillery instead of dropped over larger targets such as cities. The last report of the United States Defence Department to the President cited that such a weapon was being worked out, but there had been no public announcement of its status.

The position of at least some of those Americans who oppose use of the bomb was underlined in a statement by the Republican Senator, Ralph Flanders, who questioned the advantage to be gained "by dropping an atomic bomb on tiny cores...of teeming millions of Chinese."—United Press.

Talk Of New Dunkirk

(Continued from Page 1)

America's world-wide armed strength—which would then live to fight another day.

The evacuation would not have the United Nations troops at anything like the disadvantages of Dunkirk. Air cover would protect them against sneak raids while warships offshore ruled the sea.

TOBRUK DEFENCE?

The possibility of a "Tobruk" defence appealed to many observers. Full air cover and an uninterrupted supply line would make the task of determined garrison much easier.

Against this it was stated that there was not much point in holding a small beachhead because the rest of the country would lie open to the Communists.

Even if it was decided to hold a small perimeter—possibly at Pusan—it would be easier to ship defenders round by sea from the north of the 38th Parallel and then march them through the frozen hills along the roads leading south.

Such a withdrawal would be liable to be harassed by a "second front" of guerrillas and the still organised North Korean troops who fled into the hills behind the United Nations offensive 10 weeks ago.

These Communist forces are becoming bolder since the Chinese Communist intervention and are showing signs of operation under a co-ordinated command. A Tokyo staff officer said today that only a comparatively small force of Allied

Agnes Smedley's Legacy To Chu

New York, Dec. 3.
Miss Agnes Smedley, the American pro-Communist writer on China, bequeathed her ashes to General Chu Teh, the Commander-in-Chief of Communist China's armies, in her will published here. She also left him the residuary of her estate. The will did not indicate its value. Miss Smedley died on May 6, aged 56, at Oxford, England. She spent many years with the Communist armies in China, wearing a blue uniform and a red star on her cap.—Reuter.

U.S. Planning For Any Emergency

Washington, Dec. 3.
United States shipowners will meet with Government officials here on Monday to plan a new United States authority to take over the merchant fleet in the event of war.

Shipping sources said the blueprint for an agency which could use merchantmen to carry men supplies and munitions to fighting fronts will be ready within 30 days for use at a moment's notice. They also said that plans have been completed to arm United States freighters and passenger ships the moment they reach American ports if war breaks out. They said that guns and gun mountings are ready and waiting in ports and could be placed on merchantmen with no loss of time.

One shipping spokesman said the U.S. passenger liners could be stripped and converted to transport ships in three to four days.—United Press.

troops—mostly specially trained and lightly equipped South Koreans—had been left to deal with pockets of Communists.—Reuter.

SHINWELL CRITIC OF MacARTHUR Gone Beyond Objectives Established For Korea Conflict

Britain Believed That U.N. Troops Should Not Pass The 38th Parallel

London, Dec. 3.

General Douglas MacArthur had gone beyond the objectives Britain understood were established for the Korean campaign, Mr Emanuel Shinwell, the Defence Minister, said today.

Britain, he said, had tried to prevail on the United States to keep the objectives limited. She had believed that their campaign should end at the 38th Parallel.

In a speech at Wingate, a small town in County Durham, Mr Shinwell reviewed the position in Korea and its relation to Western Europe as his Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, was preparing to leave for talks with President Truman.

He said that a compromise plan—for Western European defence evidently meeting the French point of view—should be out "in the next few days."

A Supreme Commander for the West would be appointed and the necessary forces gathered.

Even if the Korean question were settled, he had little hope of permanent peace while Russia remained in a "mischief-making mood."

Raw material shortages caused by American stockpiling could interfere with the European defence buildup and cause unemployment in Britain, he warned.

He said the Government would welcome four-power talks with a general agenda but there was no evidence that such a conference would produce even a measure of agreement.

KOREAN "UPSET"

The Korean "upset" had delayed the building of West European defences, he said. But he was now more optimistic on this point "because I see the prospect of effecting a compromise on the problem of German participation in the defence of the West."

The compromise plan for European defence should come out "in the next few days," Mr Shinwell said. A Supreme Commander would then be appointed and forces built up.

Mr Shinwell declared: "The West is very vulnerable and wide open to attack. Before you know where you are, this

country could be bombed to bits. We have had enough of that in the past."

"Had it not been for the Korean upset, we would now have been building up our defences in the West."

In Korea that position was "very grim indeed." However, in a diplomatic sense—he would not say, in a military sense—the position was "much more favourable," he said.

WARNING

Mr Shinwell gave a warning that unemployment might emerge if the raw material shortages developed. He blamed the United States' stockpiling and said that Mr Attlee would discuss this in Washington.

Mr Shinwell said that Britain had tried to prevail on the United States Administration that "our objectives should be limited, and nothing should be done to bring us into conflict with China."

"The Government has done everything to maintain peace. The one thing we wish to avoid is a great war."

He said he was not going to criticise General MacArthur, but he added: "At the moment it would appear that General MacArthur went beyond the objectives which we understood to be the objectives at the beginning of the affair and that as a result we went up near the Manchurian border, where there is a very large force of Chinese."

"The position looks very grim indeed. There is no use deceiving ourselves."—Reuter.

IDENTITY OF VIEW ON NEW CRISIS

Paris, Dec. 3.

The French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman declared today that he had brought back from London "the certainty that we are not alone in defending peace—and the certainty that nothing must be done that could compromise peace."

M. Schuman was speaking at a ceremony at Ablon, near Paris, shortly after his return with the Prime Minister, M. Rene Pleven, from yesterday's talks with Mr Clement Attlee, the British Prime Minister.

M. Schuman said that the talks had produced "agreement on essentials." "The main essential is not to improvise in a moment of panic but to know where we are going and what we have to do," he declared.

"We must have a long-term policy as well as a policy of immediate action."

Meanwhile M. Pleven conferred with M. Jean Letourneau, whose Ministry is responsible for French affairs in the Associated states of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, on Communist China's southern frontier, where France is now grappling with renewed attacks by the Vietminh insurgents, whose leader, Dr Ho Chi-minh, is Moscow-trained.

On his arrival in Paris today, M. Pleven said: "We came to an identity of views with the British."

M. Schuman said that nothing would be achieved without France, and he concluded with an appeal to the spirit of reconciliation and of international collaboration.—Reuter.

Peace Petition For Commons

London, Dec. 3.

The peace petition which has been the main theme of Communists, propagandists in Britain, for the past year will be presented to the House of Commons next Thursday, the British Peace Committee announced tonight. The petition calls for a five-power conference and United Nations action to prohibit atomic weapons and to have branded as a criminal the first government to use atomic weapons.—Reuter.

Berlin Show Of Democracy

Berlin, Dec. 3.

In a great show of democracy, West Berliners trooped to the polls today in open defiance of Communist commands to boycott the municipal elections.

Late today, with returns still incomplete, Dr. Willy Weiland, election chairman, said at least 90 per cent of the eligible electorate of 1,000,000 had sloshed through icy rain and snow flurries to cast ballots.

The heavy vote was a crushing blow to the Russian sector Reds, who waged an intensive propaganda war here for weeks urging the isolated West Berliners to stay away from the polls.—United Press.

Collapse Of Civil Government At Pyongyang

North-West Front in Korea, Dec. 3.

The Civil Government collapsed in Pyongyang tonight.

The United Nations defence arc north of the city, after pulling back another 10 miles last night, continued to shrink today although not in actual contact with the Communists.

The main reason was the reported large Chinese concentrations on the right flank. But the Communists have so far not used them to take advantage of the "fluid" United Nations defences.

The British 27th Brigade, holding an important sector of this danger area, had not seen a Chinese soldier for the past 24 hours. Dug in on snow-covered slopes of a series of hills, the Brigade is confident that it could handle its front if the flanks were secure.

A Brigade field officer on the front said tonight: "The line may be fluid but this Brigade's position is very solid."

The roads leading south behind the front were again choked with convoys of trucks, guns and tanks. Driving north was like swimming against a strong tide.

This afternoon and tonight thousands of sore-footed and dispirited South Korean soldiers, some without equipment and weapons, added to the south-bound surge of traffic.

Off the road, through frozen rice paddies covered with snow, marched the everlasting line of refugees.

The retreat converged on Pyongyang but did not stop there. The flood of vehicles poured across the river along what a short while ago was the Eighth Army's route of advance.—Reuter.

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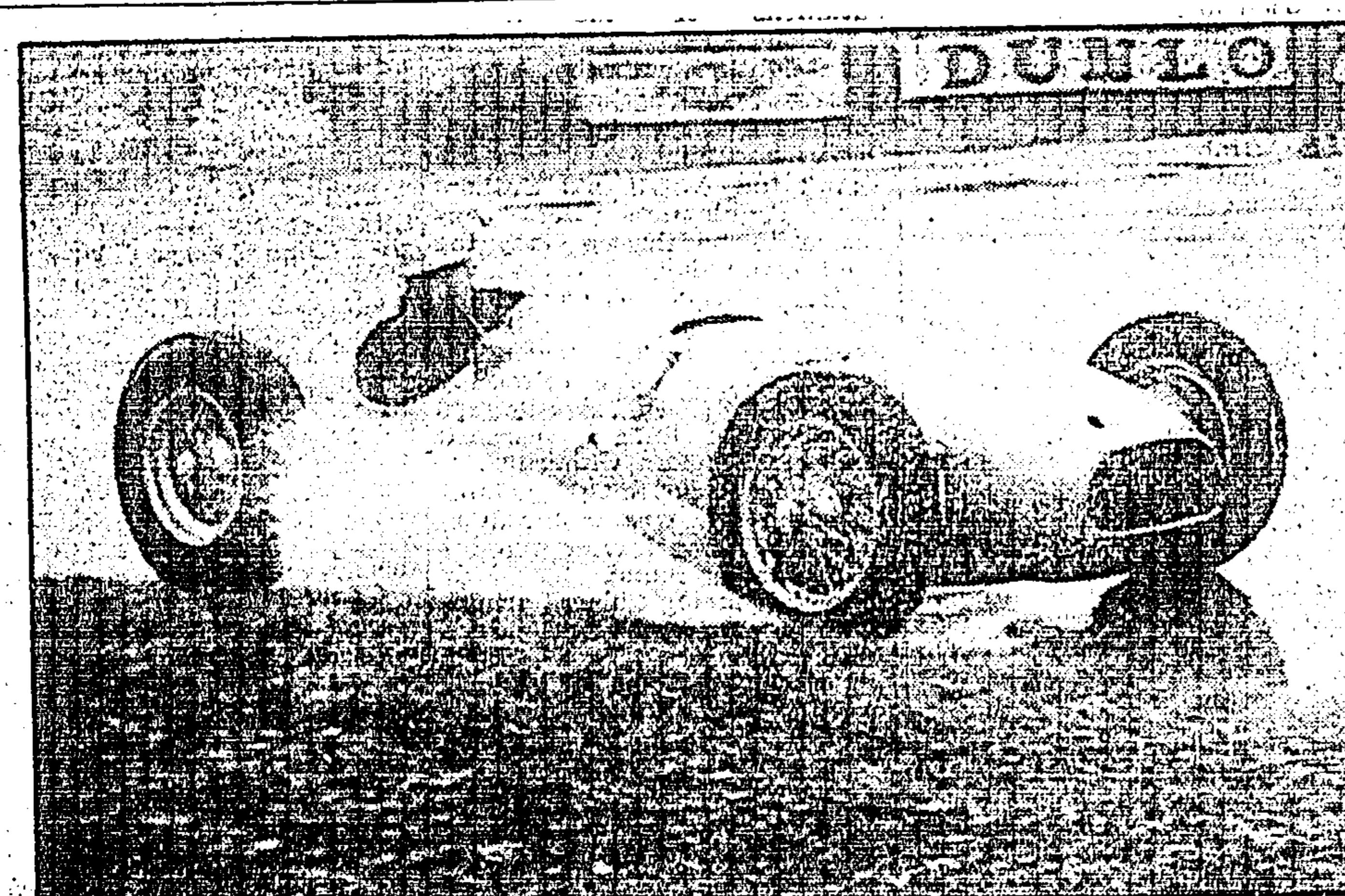
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Next Change: "THE INTERNATIONAL BURLESQUE"



The BRM racing car—hope of British motor racing—with Reg Parfell at the wheel, lapping the course at Goodwood when it won the two races for which it was entered. This was its first appearance since its failure at Silverstone. (Central Press).



Queen's Road between Ice House Street and Pedder Street still looks as if an earthquake had hit it. The process of raising the level of the highway, which has been continuing for over a fortnight, is expected to go on for several weeks, and it will be some time before pedestrians can use this stretch of road in anything approaching comfort.—Staff Photographer.

Serious Clash In Desert Of Israeli And Arab Troops

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 3.

Jordan and Israeli light guns fought a duel today in the barren desert around Wadi Araba after a "cold" frontier dispute had turned into a bloody clash.

Colonel Benner de Ridder, the acting United Nations Chief of Staff in Palestine, called for a cease-fire this afternoon. Israel agreed on condition that normal Jewish traffic was allowed to pass along the disputed Beersheba-Aylat road.

Wadi Araba is near the Arab Legion post of Gharandal, 50 miles south of the Dead Sea.

Troops were tonight withdrawing to the lines marked by Colonel Ridder.

The flare-up began this morning when the Arab Legion re-erected a block on the road, which is Israel's "lifeline" to the North-Eastern Red Sea port of Akaba.

Israeli forces removed the block, as they did an earlier one last night, unopposed by the watching Arab Legionnaires. Later in the morning according to an Israeli military spokesman, Arab Legion armoured cars opened fire on an Israeli convoy from Jordan territory east of the road.

SERIOUS CLASH

The half-tracks had crossed the disputed section of the road twice without being molested, but were fired on the third time. With the two forces facing each other on each side of the road, the clash became serious with light guns and machine-guns in action.

On the Arab side two-pounders mounted on armoured cars aimed mainly at the four half-tracks only 200 yards away, but Israeli guns mounted overnight on improvised sites scored direct hits on the Arab vehicles, setting them ablaze.

The cease-fire was to be effective at 5.00 p.m. local time. No Arab reply had been received at the United Nations Headquarters.

An emergency meeting of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission has been called by Colonel de Ridder for Monday. Israel demanded an emergency meeting last Friday but the

request was declined by Colonel Ridder, who suggested mediation on his part instead.

Standing procedure provides for an emergency meeting to be called when a serious breach of the peace occurs.

General William Riley, the United Nations Chief of Staff in Palestine, is expected here on Thursday when he will resume supervision of the Palestine truce.

The Beersheba-Aylat road runs along the Israel-Jordan frontier for some miles in the southern part of the Negav Desert. Jordan complained over a week ago to the United Nations Commission that a small section of it passed through Jordan territory.

On Wednesday her forces set up a roadblock, which Israeli spokesmen have called a flagrant violation of the Armistice agreement. — Reuter.

CEASE FIRE

Amman, Dec. 3.

Israeli and Arab Legion troops who clashed on a disputed road in the desert around Wadi Araba today ceased fire later on the orders of the Mixed Jordan-Israeli Armistice Commission.

Casualties were sustained on both sides in the clash. Reports here said that the clash occurred when an Israeli armed convoy tried to force its way along a three-mile diversionary road which the Israelis constructed in what is considered Jordan territory.

The Arab Legion, considering that the Israelis had trespassed into Jordan territory, deployed an armoured contingent and blocked the road. When the strongly escorted Israeli convoy reached the roadblock, it was reported here, it warned the Arab Legion of its intention to force its way through within 30 minutes unless the block was removed.

The Arab Legion ignored the "ultimatum," whereupon it was said, the Israelis tried to shoot their way through. Their fire was returned. One report tonight said that both sides were rushing reinforcements to the locality.

The Jordan Government informed the acting Chairman of the mixed Armistice Commission that it regarded the Israeli attempt to force a passage across the Jordan territory as a flagrant, wilful violation, inasmuch as the construction of the road diversion itself constituted an infringement. Therefore it resolved to defend its integrity. — Reuter.



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EVACUATION OF PYONGYANG IN PROGRESS

Tokyo, Dec. 3.

Explosions rocked doomed Pyongyang all day today as the retreating United Nations forces blew up key installations preparatory to a general evacuation.

North of the city a thin line of British and American troops moved slowly back in a 30-mile arc screening the withdrawal from the former Communist capital.

They had little contact with the Communists on the front and flank but the almost invisible pressure of the mass forces of the Chinese drove them back.

Pyongyang, held by the United Nations for six weeks, will be the first major prize of the Korean war for the Chinese.

An American spokesman said yesterday that such installations as power stations and waterworks would be left in the same condition as the Allies found them but nothing would remain of military value.

Smoke from burning equipment and installations rose into the chilly air throughout the day.

The Army had arranged to blow up vital bridges and move ammunition dumps.

Tonight a thousand Korean civilians moved hospital patients south across the Taedong River and the town authorities planned to evacuate about 1,500 more civilians whom they feared the Communists might execute if they left them in the city.

POSITION PRECARIOUS

Hopelessly outnumbered, the United Nations troops were still fighting though their position became hourly more precarious.

Overwhelming Communist forces, now said to number half a million men, were still pouring down the mountainous spine in the peninsula, swinging right towards Pyongyang and left towards the east coast in two large encircling movements.

With the Communists closing in on all sides, British and Australian troops were battling shoulder to shoulder with the Americans to hold a thin 40-mile line north of Pyongyang, as General MacArthur tried to pull out and regroup his forces, now spread-eagled by the new Chinese onslaught.

Snow and a low ceiling blanketed the whole area, crippling air action when it was most needed.

MIDDLESEX IN ACTION

The Middlesex and Australian battalions of the British Commonwealth 27th Brigade were fighting with the Americans west of Songchon, 30 miles north-east of the former Northern capital.

And the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were expected to be thrown into the front line today.

Mortar shells from raiding guerrillas began to fall on Pyongyang as the evacuation began today. The retreating Eighth Army was expected to carry out a limited scorched earth plan before withdrawal—destroying anything rebuilt since the city was captured on October 20 but leaving the installations as found.

The advancing Chinese armies were known to have brought up some artillery.

One column of the big Chinese force driving southeast towards the Sea of Japan was believed to have linked up with North Korean guerrillas operating against the United Nations troops around Wonsan, on the east coast.

MARINES THREATENED

A link-up here would cut off the considerable scattered forces of the 10th Corps battling General MacArthur's command. — Reuter.

in the North-East corner. These include the large force of British, Turks and American Marines and infantry who have been fighting five days to extricate themselves from the grip of at least six Chinese divisions in the Chosin Reservoir area.

United States transport planes—in one of the most dangerous air operations in the Korean war—had already ferried more than 1,200 casualties out of Communist-encircled Hagaru, on the southern tip of the frozen reservoir.

Chinese troops fired on the twin-engined Dakotas as they landed on a primitive airstrip improvised from a 3,000-foot long pasture, General MacArthur's communiqué stated to-day.

Some of the planes were hit but were patched up and continued their mercy mission.

The bitter struggle was still raging today with two regiments of American Marines fighting against tremendous odds to join the rest of the group inside encircled Hagaru.

HEAVY CASUALTIES

Snow and poor visibility was hampering air support, but wounded and frost-bitten stragglers continued to reach Hagaru after crawling across the frozen reservoir from the northeast, where they ran into an ambush last week.

The nearby town of Shinhungni was blitzed by American Marine aircraft yesterday, it was announced here. Communist casualties were heavy. Further to the south, the American 7th Division repulsed a midnight attack at Majondong, 16 north-west of Hamhung, on the east coast.

American 7th Division troops who had earlier reached Hysanjin, on the Manchurian border, were understood now to be pushing south to escape encirclement.

United Nations Air Intelligence reported seeing new Chinese Communist convoys and troops columns moving south into Korea from Manpojin, the Yalu River town 65 miles north-west of the Chosin Reservoir.

LINE AT SARIWON

Military sources in Tokyo said that the next Allied defensive line below Pyongyang would be in the Sariwon area, about 30 miles north of the 38th Parallel.

The United Nations armies in Korea were yesterday stated to number 150,000 men. Nearly 80,000 of these were tied up dealing with more than 20,000 guerrillas, mainly bypassed North Korean troops scattered behind the front lines and threatening rear supply lines.

General Lawton Collins, the United States Army Chief of Staff, accompanied by Major-General Charles P. Cabell, the Air Force Director of Intelligence and an unnamed naval representative, are expected in Tokyo tonight from Washington.

General Collins was officially stated to be coming to obtain a personal view on the general situation, to confer personally with General MacArthur and to determine by what means the Department of the Army can best assist General MacArthur's command. — Reuter.

India To Continue Mediation Efforts At Lake Success

Lake Success, Dec. 3.

A second meeting between General Wu Hsiu-chuan, the head of the Peking delegation to Lake Success, and Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, India's representative on the Security Council, will take place in the near future.

NEW AID PLANS FOR FAR EAST

Washington, Dec. 3.

President Truman is planning new moves to pump American dollar aid into such Far Eastern trouble spots as the Philippines, Formosa and Indo-China.

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr Tom Connally, said his Committee would be asked on Monday or Tuesday for authority to use up to \$100,000,000 in Marshall Plan funds for the general area of China. This apparently means President Truman plans to shift some of the United States' emphasis on aid to Europe to Communist-threatened Asia. Congress, which has long heard demands for such action, may vote swift approval.

Senator Connally also said the Committee on Monday would begin consideration of President Truman's urgent request for \$38,000,000 in additional food aid for anti-Soviet Yugoslavia. About \$35,000,000 in ERP funds would be wanted for the Pacific areas at the outset. This would be in addition to \$100,000,000 voted the President last summer for aid in the China area and presumably already spent.

Senator Connally said that ECA, which administers the Marshall Plan, was most anxious to get going in the Pacific and with as few restrictions as possible. The ECA director, Mr William Foster, returned on Saturday from a first-hand survey in the Orient and this is apparently a factor in the proposed programme. The Philippines is expected to be high on the list for early aid. Formosa would receive economic but not military assistance. Burma and Thailand were also mentioned as possible recipients. — United Press.

Unanimous Vote In U.N.

Flushing Meadow, Dec. 3. The United Nations General Assembly decided last night by 55 votes to none, with two abstentions, to recommend immediate steps for the abolition of corporal punishment in all trust territories.

The administering powers were requested to report on the matter next year. Belgium and South Africa were the two abstentions.—Reuter.

The first meeting was held in the Communist Chinese delegation's rooms at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Friday and was the result of an Indian initiative to ascertain the possibilities of a peaceful settlement of the Korean conflict.

Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, forewarned by previous failures of India's good offices in the past to evolve an agreed procedure, has been impervious to all requests to throw light on his plans or the nature of his talks with General Wu.

Asked specifically today whether he was proceeding on the basis of an immediate cease-fire in Korea and the establishment of a neutral zone north of the 100-mile wide "wasp waist" of the peninsula to be supervised by a United Nations Commission in which India might participate, Sir Benegal said: "What is your journalistic jargon for a situation like this question?"

"The Indian delegate declined to confirm or deny," is it not?" he went on.

It was reliably learned, meanwhile, that Sir Benegal had not taken up any specific proposals with General Wu so far, and indeed had no justification for doing so in view of the danger that the currently fluid military position might outrun tentative suggestions except of a most general nature.

What was even more important, the Indian delegate could not, in the nature of the situation, present concrete proposals unless he knew what the United States, as the leader of the United Nations action in Korea, would concede in the interests of a settlement.

CEASE-FIRE AS BASIS

One thing was today confirmed, namely, that the Indian delegation had been interesting itself in the question of a ceasefire in Korea as the basis of restoring peace.

Such efforts did not, however, originate with Sir Benegal Rau's three-day old talks with General Wu, but dated as far back as the General Assembly resolution of October 7, which permitted General MacArthur's forces to cross the 38th Parallel and authorised them to stay "in Korea" until peace was restored.

When that resolution was presented in the General Assembly, India—although it was not publicly revealed at that time—had suggested to its movers that there be included a provision for the cessation of hostilities and the utilisation of United Nations Peace Observation Commission.

The Indian delegate was then privately rebuffed for mentioning such proposals although Sir Benegal had argued

The source said that India's attitude could be gleaned from the moves it had made, though unsuccessfully so far, Pandit Nehru's appeal in July that the Korean question be settled in the Security Council with Communist China sitting as a member, reopening of the same question on the first day of the current session of the General Assembly, the advice that before the 38th Parallel was crossed the North Koreans be given the chance to come to terms, and the suggestion that a sub-committee be appointed to find a common ground between the United States and Soviet points of view in the Assembly as a whole.—Reuter.

It is expected that the request will come before the Assembly at Monday morning's session and go afterwards either to the Steering Committee or direct to the main Political Committee.

The United States' overnight switch in plans was apparently decided on at an urgent Washington conference between the Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, and the United Nations delegates, Mr Warren Austin and Mr Ernest Gross.

The United Nations today cancelled the morning session of the Political Committee at

which the American delegate, Mr John Foster Dulles, had planned to ask quick Assembly action against Peking.

URGENT CONFERENCES

Indications were that this was done to enable delegation chiefs to attend the Assembly discussion here on the newly proposed agenda item concerning Communist aggression in Korea.

An American spokesman said the cancellation was not requested by the United States.

The American delegation held urgent all-day conferences on the Far East crisis.

It was reported that the United States was trying to get as many other nations as possible to co-sponsor a move putting the Chinese intervention before the Assembly.—United Press.

The Kiddies' Delight



Clowns are always great friends of the kiddies, and this picture shows two of them, Alby and Billy Austin, with two youngsters who had a first-hand view of the Bertram Mills' circus rehearsing at Ascot before it goes to London.—Central Press.

Action In UN To Await Result Of Washington Talks

Flushing, Dec. 3.

The United States today postponed immediate plans to seek General Assembly action against the Chinese Communists, apparently to await the outcome of the Truman-Attlee talks.

Informed sources said tonight that the West decided to hold up the introduction of the resolution demanding that Peking pull its troops out of Korea.

Instead, the West plans merely to send a formal request on Monday to the Assembly President that the issue of Chinese Communist intervention in Korea be put on the Assembly agenda.

It is expected that the request will come before the Assembly at Monday morning's session and go afterwards either to the Steering Committee or direct to the main Political Committee.

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NANCY

The Little Cutup



By Ernie Bushmiller



NAN KANG CO. UNION BUILDING H.K.

Nothing Upsets Scots Confidence

FLYING SAVV



Vladimir Beara, the ex-ballet dancer and goalkeeper of Yugoslavia, makes a flying save during an England attack in the match at Highbury. Full back Stanikovic watched anxiously (left) during the international match between England and Yugoslavia at Highbury.—Central Press Photo.

England Threw Away The Match Against The Yugoslavs

Says ARCHIE QUICK

For the first time in the long history of English football the national side has failed to beat a visiting Continental eleven in a full International match. With the kind permission of the English defence Yugoslavia drew 2-2 on Arsenal's ground, and so continued their record of having won at Belgrade in 1939 and defeated our amateurs in the Wembley 1948 Olympic Games.

England threw away the Highbury match after gaining a two goal lead in the first half hour. It was not so much that England were unable to win as that they allowed the Yugoslavs to draw level. Two "softer" goals than those presented to a visiting side that was never more than workmanlike I do not expect to see again in an International game. In each case Willie Watson, the Sunderland right-half, was the original culprit with the final blame going to Leslie Compton and Alf Ramsey respectively.

In the first case Watson allowed himself to lose a simple tackle when he could have put the ball into touch. Instead the ball was whipped over Williams had it covered but Compton, standing on the goal-line, stuck out a foot and tickled the ball into his own net. Later, Watson again dithered; but the shot that was sent in was a schoolboy's save for Williams. Instead, Ramsey decided to block it, the ball went out to the Slav centre-forward and he had nothing to do but tap it home.

TEXT BOOK PATTERNS

In contrast, the English goals were patterns from the next book. Hancock to Mannion to Baily, a long pass to Medley, a cross and Loftus, hit home No. 1. Dickenson to Hancock to Medley roving on the right wing, another cross and Loftus headed in at full length. Those goals looked the start of a cricket score, but Compton's forward already

THEY ARE READY FOR THE AUSTRIANS AT HAMPDEN PARK

Says IVAN SHARPE

Oct. 1950: Austria 7, Yugoslavia 2.

Nov. 1950: England 2, Yugoslavia 2.

So the book of form says a team five goals better than England appears at Hampden Park on December 13 to tackle Scotland.

But Mr Secretary Graham, with pugnacious humour, says, "Leave it to us. We'll show them. We are used to pulling England out of a hole!"

This five goals margin leaves England with two black eyes. True, we gave the Yugoslavs both goals. There is no doubt whatever that if first Compton and then Ramsey had left the ball to Williams, the goalkeeper could have cleared without difficulty.

But that doesn't make these football errors "blundering stupidities." Such criticism ranks with the soapbox in Hyde Park.

The chairman of the selectors (Mr Arthur Drewry) said after the match that three of the England players had been to him to say "Sorry, Mr Drewry. It was my fault." I can only guess at the identity of the regretful three, but I admire their courage and frankness. Even international footballers haven't eyes in the back of the head.

The truth is, our good luck against Italy at Tottenham in 1949 has levelled-up at Highbury in 1950.

BITE WANTED

But if confessions are to come into fashion the selectors should do public penance. They made bloomers.

I called this team "dangerously experimental," which is about as far as we can go in eight-page papers. So I wasn't surprised that England failed to win.

For well over a year I have been saying that the England defence lacks bite. Italy proved it. I expect it was the same at the World Cup. I wasn't there. My heart wouldn't stand it!

And by bite, I don't mean fury or unfair play. I mean firm tackling of the type displayed by the much-capped Dickinson of Portsmouth. But, if you remember, they dropped Dickinson for Watson against Italy.

Individually, the England backs, Ramsey and Eckersley, are excellent and extremely praiseworthy players but, as a pair, they are on the small and genteel side, so more trenchant tackling must be inserted in the defence somewhere.

A genteel defence gives the other fellows too much time to settle on the ball and do their stuff. Good, bad or indifferent, I generally gave my best against Jesse Pennington, of Crompton and Pennington fame, because I knew he would not bump me. Understand?

Nor did the England attack ever look to me like a really satisfactory line. They were worth those two Loftus goals, but I wasn't at all surprised when they cracked up in emergency.

GOING DOWN

The fact is, of course, our international football is going to what we should expect from today's low club level. Only nighly-expert team-selection and management will lift it out of the rut.

We are finding it more and more difficult to fill the gaps left by Cullis, Lawton, Carter, Hagan and now Matthews... and the query is beginning to encircle Mannion.

My only changes would be Johnston (Blackpool), Nicholson (Spurs) or Wright (Wolves) for Watson and Cummings (Burnley) or Hughes (Liverpool) for Compton, although I am not really keen on either centre-

About the gentleman in black beneath the crossbar... Every Continental country seems to have a star goalkeeper performing like a man on a flying trapeze or, as a Cockney emerging from the exits said: "Like a —black kangaroo." Why?

Because, abroad, goalkeepers are "untouchable"—they receive the freedom of the penalty-area. No-one may charge them.

BUT NOT LUCKY

So they can jump and bound to their heart's delight and this develops confidence and showmanship. How ungenerous to call this one lucky. He was marvellous.

"England have given us a lesson in long passing," the Yugoslavs say. We should say they have given us a lesson in smooth, slick, effortless combination, the basis of which is real ball-control: use of the outside as well as the inside of the foot in passing the ball, allied as a rule to lissom body-sweve.

The more I see of international Soccer, the more I feel that the footballer of the future will be a streamlined fellow with a build like Bennett of the Spurs, or Milburn of Newcastle United, or David Jack in his heyday.

But the shotless Yugoslavs are not in the first three in my Continental rankings. The best I have seen were the Austrians and Italians of the 1930's and the Dynamos from Russia.

But when is this body-checking business going to be cleared up? The lads from Belgrade have it more than most. In the days of the great Huddersfield-Harold Wagstaff Rugby League team, often claimed as the finest club combination ever to play Rugby or any code, opponents complained of "scientific obstruction."

Almost all the Continental countries use scientific obstruction—arms or shoulders slightly extended, accidentally or purpose, to hamper opponents, put them out of stride.

NOT PERFECT

It is generally illegal, of course, but has grown with the game abroad in place of what we used to call the good-old-healthy-shoulder-charge. The g.o.h.c. is nearly dead in Britain, and we aren't perfect by any means.

In club football, all too often we follow through with the boot to trap the other fellow's ankle in a tackle. Our club tackling is often too trenchant; the Continentals stop 'em unfairly in ways more sly.

It is up to the highly respected British countries, as pioneers and law leaders in the Federation of International Football Associations, to secure uniformity in law interpretation in the 70-odd countries now playing the Soccer game. Some job.

Language is one difficulty. When I asked Nat Loftus whether the Yugoslavs spoke English on the field, he said of the 6ft. 3in. centre-half, "My man seemed to know only one word, and that was 'Foul!'"

Yes, 6ft. 3ins. There were several of these giants in British football in the 1900-1914 period... Albert Iremonger, the Notts County goalkeeper, of whom Steve Bloomer said, "His head sticks up over the crossbar and

his arms reach up to Heaven"; Harold, Leicester Fosse centre-half; Coquet, Tottenham Hotspur right back; Eadie, of Manchester City; and Nils Middleboe, Chelsea's "Great Dane."

Gone, but not forgotten. Where are the Long Toms of 1950? Rubbed out by rationing?

CUP CHANGES

There may be no spectacular alterations in the FA and FA Amateur Cup competitions, but instead, a steady pruning and cutting down of accepted entries. Timpot Rovers, I maintain, are on the way out of the National Cups.

And by season 1952-53 the desired Intermediate Cup for professional clubs outside the Football League will be launched if sufficient clubs desire it.

So the Banbury Spencers, Nuncatons and Denaby Uniteds must keep chins up and keep on working for the right to have their own great Final Day at Wembley.

Monaveen Destroyed

London, Dec. 2.

The Queen to-day saw her famous steeple-chaser Monaveen fall and have to be destroyed, while contesting the £2,000 Elizabeth Stakes run over three miles at Hurst Park this afternoon.

Monaveen, with whom the Queen had hopes of winning the Grand National, broke a leg when falling and had to be shot. The horse was among the leaders when he came down.

The nine-year-old gelding, which finished fifth in last year's Grand National, is owned jointly by the Queen and Princess Elizabeth, now in Malta.

Monaveen started a 9/4 favourite. The race was won by Coloured School Boy, who started at 3/1. He won an exciting race from Rhotorus, which is a stable companion of Monaveen.

The Queen's horse was trained by Peter Cazalet and ridden by Tony Grantham, who was injured and brought in by an ambulance.—Reuter.

TOWEEEL BEATS O'SULLIVAN

Johannesburg, Dec. 2.

Vic Toweeel tonight retained his world and Empire bantam-weight championships by beating Danny O'Sullivan, the British Champion on points.

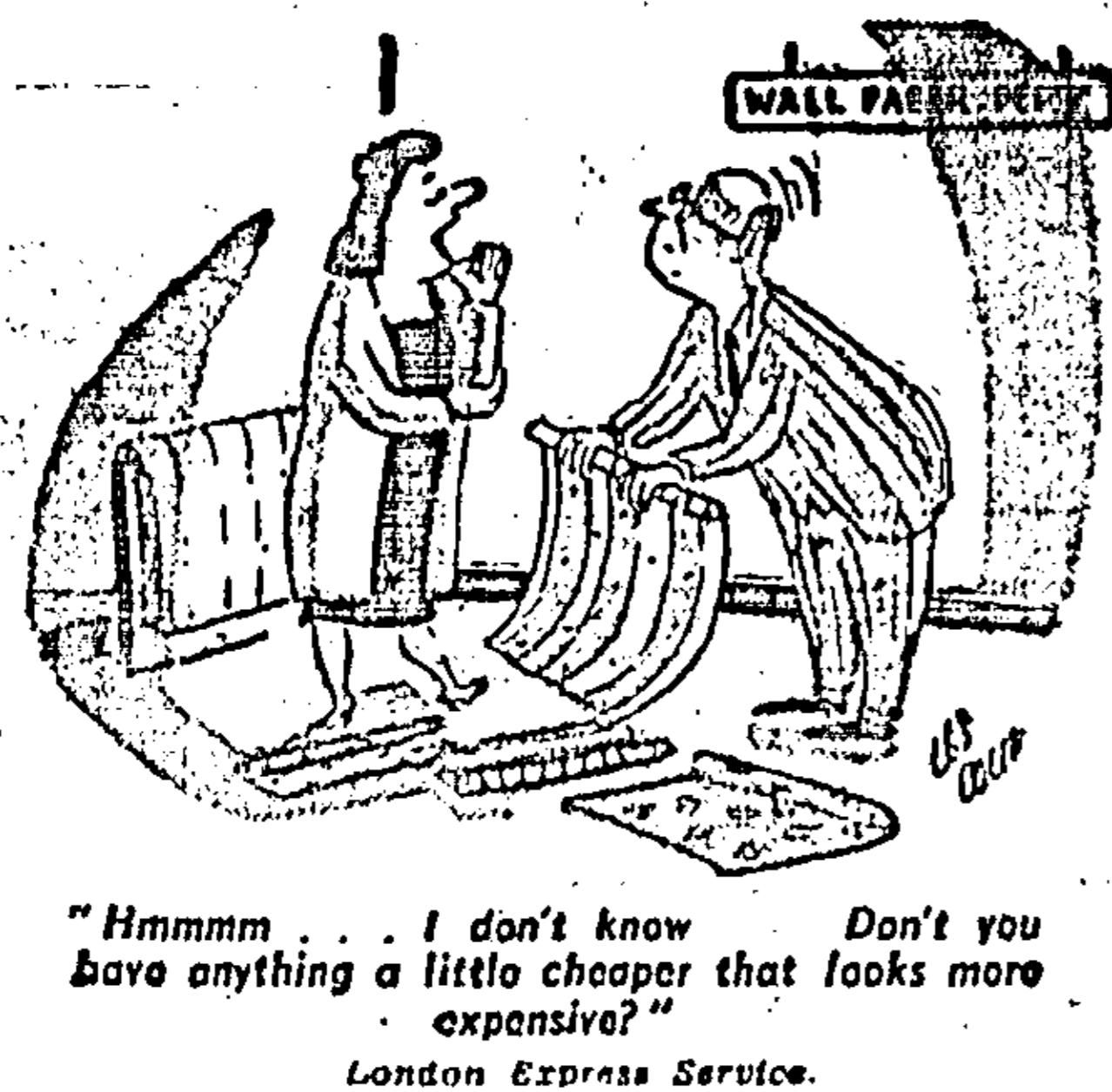
The British champion retired at the end of the 10th round.—Reuter.

FLYWEIGHT FIGHT

Manila, Dec. 2.

Tanny Campo of the Philippines to-day retained his flyweight championship of the Orient by decision against Thailand's Chai Siphol.

Larry Bataan of the Philippines (122 lbs) won by decision against Thailand's Pho Phrahang. In the junior featherweight championship fight of the Orient.—United Press.



SPOTLIGHT ON HIRE PURCHASE

From Robert Shearer, Rome.

In Italy, the hire-purchase system has become something of a national institution. All classes use it to buy anything from clothes and gramophones to jewellery, furs, and cars. In some circles it is considered almost a breach of good taste not to have a "never-never" account with your tailor.

The reason for its popularity is simply that, as far as the average Italian is concerned, wages are too low for him to buy what he wants any other way. And if instalments are not paid regularly the dealer has the right to take back the goods.

This he usually does at the first signs of default.

Because this is so far reaching, there are a number of rackets in Italy's hire purchase business. One concerns the buying of apartment houses. A conscientious buyer may quite easily discover after five years or so that because of a "technicality" he has merely been paying rent when he thought he was nearing ownership.

To avoid this risk house buying in Italy is handled almost exclusively by family lawyers.

FROM CRADLE

From Patrick Nicholson, Ottawa.

Thanks to hire purchase the average Canadian, spending tomorrow's earnings today, enjoys luxuries which he could never otherwise afford.

From his cradle (probably a hire-purchase one) he spends his life buying most of his important goods—even his wedding ring—by instalments.

Alcohol and perishable foods are about the only things he cannot get by instalments. Even the three-month supply of food he stocks his summer cottage with has almost certainly been bought on the "never-never."

Hire-purchase covers one-tenth of all buying. Interest rates range from 20 percent a year on refrigerators and furniture, to 17 percent on smaller, more unusual items, bought by mail order.

BACKGROUNDS: Douglas MacArthur No. 23



September 1, 1945, almost four years after Pearl Harbour, the historic surrender was signed in Tokyo Bay on a deck of the big battleship Missouri. The Pacific war was over; the world war was over. Their work well done, Allied officers lined up on an open deck to watch the signing of this historic document.

Eleven Japanese envoys met to an ordinary desk and General MacArthur, as Supreme Allied Commander, signed on behalf of the victors. Behind him stood General Wainwright with a lump in his throat, and to him MacArthur gave the first of the six pens he used on the surrender document.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Crisis Accentuates The Raw Material Shortage

(OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 1. If the new Korean crisis has not made raw material shortages any worse than they were it has certainly accentuated them. The critical situation resulting from the Chinese counter-offensive has thrown the ball back to those governments which hoped that the commodity shortages could be solved without resorting to wartime measures of control.

This is obviously not the time for procrastination and governments must now take the very action they were anxious to avoid.

After several weeks' evasion the British Government is now definitely thinking along these lines. The Ministry of Supply has stated that consideration is being given to the introduction next year of an allocation scheme for zinc. This scheme may be extended to include all non-ferrous metals.

After this announcement was made the President of the Board of Trade, Mr Harold Wilson, told a House of Commons that was already reeling under the effect of the sudden serious turn of events in Korea that if shortages of materials for which the Board is responsible develop, special allocation arrangements will be introduced as necessary in order to see that priority users have first call on available supplies. He hoped to make a fuller statement later.

Mr Wilson also said he was "going into the question of cotton waste, cotton yarn and rayon materials."

Apart from certain raw materials—like cotton, sulphur, wood-pulp and base metals—of which shortages had developed before the Korean war began, there is a long list of commodities which are now in short supply as a direct result of the war.

In certain commodities there would actually be a surplus if conditions were normal. But war fears have turned these potential surpluses into shortages. Scrambles have developed for what supplies remain after stock-piling and defence requirements have been met, with the result that prices have been pushed through the roof.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: North.

Love all.

N.
J 8 7 3
Q 9 8 5
A Q 10 7
Q 4

W.
K Q 10 5
K J
8 2
A Q 7 3

E.
9 2
6 4 3
5 4 3
K 9 8 6 5

S.
A 6 4
10 7 2
K J 6
J 10 2

South gained an undeserved success on this hand from Rubber Bridge. He opened One Heart after two passes. West bid One Spade (a doublet is better), North Three Hearts and South Four Hearts, which West doubled. North's jump raise was not forcing and South should have passed with his many potential losers.

West led ♠ K to South's ♠ A. East starting a peter with ♠ 9. South sensed the impending ruff but could only hope that East had a doubleton trump. ♠ A was followed by ♥ 2 to West's ♥ K. East playing ♥ 3 and ♥ 4 in that order. As he had failed to play high-low to indicate three trumps and a desire to ruff, West shied off a Spade continuation. He made an ill-judged shift to ♦ 9 and South was home.

London Express Service

INCREASING CONCERN

In the case of tin and rubber, this scramble has been accentuated by the fear of war spreading to producing areas and the cutting of supplies altogether. This is the reason why the price of rubber advanced by 9d a pound—a fantastic increase for one day—and tin by £60 a ton when the news of the Chinese counter-offensive was received in London.

Western European countries, which are now trying to build up their defences while endeavouring not to upset their already strained economies too much, are becoming increasingly concerned about these raw material shortages. So much has been heard about tin, rubber and wool that the impression might have been gained that the other commodities are reasonably

plentiful. That unfortunately is not the case.

The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation which met this week-end to discuss the commodity famine studied the list of materials which are in short supply. This list includes besides the three mentioned above the following raw materials: coal, coke, scrap, iron ore, manganese, copper, zinc, aluminium, textile fibres, sulphur, timber, pulp, cement, raw hides and skins.

This list gives some idea of the immensity of the problem to be faced. But whatever means of mitigating it are proposed by OEEC one thing is quite clear: it cannot be solved by Western Europe alone.

The introduction of allocation schemes along the lines of those administered by the wartime Combined Supply Boards is the solution which appears to be most favoured by some of the members of OEEC, notably France. But the obstacles to be surmounted before these schemes could come into operation are so vast that there can be no hope for a solution of this kind unless there is complete co-operation between consumers and producers, some of whom are outside Europe.

AMERICAN POSITION

Moreover, allocation schemes cannot be devised until American co-operation is secured. The American position is still not known but it may become clearer when talks between the OEEC delegation and the United States Government begin in Washington soon.

American participation in allocation schemes would go a long way towards mitigating some of the shortages but others would remain. To allocate raw materials like wool, rubber and tin on a system of international priorities would require the ending of their respective free markets. Producers of these raw materials are strongly opposed to anything which would interfere with their free marketing arrangements, and nothing short of war seems likely to budge them.

Possible action by the OEEC seems to be limited to those commodities which are produced in Western Europe. They could do this in various ways. They could limit consumption to essential users, take steps to increase the production of raw materials in short supply; develop new synthetic materials and increase the output of existing substitutes.

Whatever means of solving the problem are decided on—and they may include stringent monetary control to make it impossible for non-essential users to finance large stock of raw materials—they will not be easy to impose without reverting to wartime economy.

The common danger arising from the events of the past few days should, however, serve to reconcile those conflicting interests between nation and nation, of producer and consumer, which have hitherto made any agreement seem impossible.



Then began the military occupation of Japan, with the man who had led them to victory remaining the top official of the Allied organisation. MacArthur was to become more powerful than the Emperor whom he received in audience dressed in U.S. Army sun-tans with his shirt collar flopping open and no tie.

North Korean Reds, urged on by Russia, gave "Emperor" MacArthur still another opportunity to serve his country and the cause of freedom. When the communists attacked their South Korean brothers last June MacArthur was named the first United Nations Commander in history and told to crush the Red invaders.

ATTLEE TAKES OFF FOR U.S. TRIP

Last Minute Conference With Senior Cabinet Ministers

Fully Documented For Momentous Talks With Truman

London, Dec. 3.

The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, called senior Cabinet Ministers to Downing Street tonight for a last minute conference five hours before flying to Washington for his momentous talks with President Truman.

The main purpose of the Washington talks will be to find a means of localising the fighting in Korea, usually well-informed quarters said.

Mr Attlee went over the ground he will cover with President Truman in a long talk with the Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hugh Gaitskell and with the Defence Minister, Mr Emanuel Shinwell.

Mr Attlee, having now conferred not only with all his military, diplomatic and political advisers but also with France's Prime Minister, M. René Pleven, and her Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, is now fully documented for his discussion with the American President on a wide range of subjects.

It was believed that following his talks with M. Pleven and M. Schuman—who travelled from Paris to London yesterday to confer with him—Mr Attlee will still propose that the Korean problem should be tackled in two stages.

These are:

(1) Stabilisation of the military position.

(2) Negotiations with Communist China to end the conflict.

British Ministers were understood to be strongly convinced that United Nations action in Korea must be tied to its original purpose—to halt a war and not to start one.

NO DEFINITE PLAN

Evidence here suggests that the British Government has so far no definite plan of how to make negotiating contact with China—or what the scope of the negotiations should be.

But it was understood that Britain would be prepared to revive the proposal for a demilitarised buffer zone in North Korea after the military position has been established.

Indications were that the Ministers are taking things as they come and have not yet worked out a policy to meet a situation in which there is no possibility of stabilising the military position.

But if the worst came to the worst and the military position continued to deteriorate the attitude of the Government concerned would have to be worked out in Washington.

Opinion here is, in any case, strongly opposed to allowing British resources to get bogged down in extensive Far Eastern fighting because of the continuing possibility of a threat to Europe.

THREE-POINT TOPIC

While Korea, Atlantic defence and stockpiling will give a three-point topic to Mr Attlee's agenda in Washington, it is known that he wishes to consider these inter-related problems as a whole.

As part of the policy of giving Europe security, Mr Attlee was expected to discuss fully in Washington the question of Atlantic defence.

He was believed ready to support the appointment of a Supreme Commander—probably General Dwight Eisenhower—without delay.

Usually well-informed quarters believed that though progress had been made in the North Atlantic Deputies' Coun-



Mr W. Henson, an official of the U.N. (left) with one of the chiefs of the Chinese Communist delegation now in New York. (Central Press)

London Snow Does Not Delay Plane

London, Dec. 3.

Snow was falling at London Airport today as a British Overseas Airways Stratocruiser stood by to carry the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, and his staff to the momentous Washington talks with President Truman.

But the airport authorities reported meantime that the weather was "all right for flying" and expected the Stratocruiser to take off on schedule at 9.30 p.m. GMT tonight.

ATTLEE RETAINS OPTIMISM

London, Dec. 3.

The talks that Mr Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, will have in Washington will not be in the nature of an international conference.

In the words of Mr Attlee himself they will be "an exchange of views between man and man and such an exchange can only result in good to the cause we have at heart—the peace of the world."

Mr Attlee spoke those words to reporters before he left London tonight for the United States for his discussions with President Truman.

"I am not going to talk about any particular facts of the many problems we are facing," he said. "I want to survey the whole scene as it now is and as it may be in the future."

Asked by reporters "Are you optimistic?", Mr Attlee replied that he was always optimistic in everything.

Asked "Do you think we can find a basis for a peaceful solution of the things we are facing", he said, "I hope so."

Mr Attlee wore in his coat a sprig of white heather (traditionally for good luck).

He was seen off by Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary.

When Mr Attlee left his official residence at No. 10 Downing Street police prevented photographers recording his departure.

Mechanics and fitters had been working all day adapting the interior of the aircraft which is taking him to the United States. Desks were installed.

The trip may take 16 hours or more, flying nonstop if weather conditions are suitable. Before he went to the aerodrome, Mr Attlee had final consultations with his Ministers, and his diplomatic and military advisers.

Overriding interest in his journey was centred in the means he may be able to work out with President Truman for negotiating with the Chinese on Korea.

London comment on the Attlee visit has featured a belief that India's special position may make it possible for the Western Powers to find a way of doing this.

The key point of the forthcoming discussions are considered self-evident. They are:

- 1.—Ways of getting the Korea situation under control and the question of negotiations with the Chinese Communists at Lake Success.

- 2.—European defence.

- 3.—The question of new talks with Russia.

- 4.—The raw materials situation, which is worrying both Britain and France.

M. Pleven and Mr Attlee are both known to oppose the United States' stockpiling policy, and will both strongly press the view in Washington that this policy means withholding essential raw materials from the French and British economies.

The wide range of experts travelling with Mr Attlee, who include economic as well as military, diplomatic and political advisers and his preparatory consultations, indicated that he will bring many difficult subjects before the President.

Reuter.

The trans-Atlantic weather forecast promised a smooth flight with good visibility along the whole of the route.

The pilot was to set course for Gander Aerodrome in Newfoundland where he expects to arrive after nine and a half hours for a brief wait while the plane is fuelled.

—Reuter.

TRUMAN CONFERS ON KOREA CRISIS

Washington, Dec. 3.

President Truman met top military and diplomatic officials last night and again today to review developments in Korea.

The President conferred at Blair House today with Mr Dean Acheson, the Secretary of State, Mr George Marshall, Secretary of Defence, and General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

They reviewed all aspects of the war in Korea for two and a half hours.

They had held a similar session at Blair House yesterday lasting two hours.

Also present at today's session was Mr Truman's foreign affairs adviser, Mr Averell Harriman.

Mr Charles G. Ross, Presidential Press Secretary, would not disclose any details of the discussion at these meetings.

This afternoon Mr Truman went to the White House to work on a speech he is to make on Tuesday morning before the Mid-Gentry Conference on children.

Mr Ross said that the speech would "touch on the emergency and will be adapted to the occasion".

Mr Ross said that the President would go to Washington's National Airport tomorrow morning at 9.30 a.m. to greet the British Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee.—Reuter.

Hongkong Telegraph

Morning Post Building,
Hongkong.

Published daily (Mid-Day), except Saturdays & Sundays.

Price, 20 cents per edition.

Postage: China, Macao, UK, British Possessions and other countries, \$1.10 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.

Telephone: 26611 (5 Lines).

Printed and published by William Alick Grinham for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.